

CLAIMS

1. A system for screening items of baggage, the system comprising attaching to each baggage item at a check-in location within a terminal an electronic tag which is periodically scanned as the item travels via a baggage sortation system between the check-in location and a loading location, diverting all baggage items from the sortation system to an explosive detection screening system housed within a prefabricated building alongside the terminal, retaining for further inspection baggage items which are not cleared by the explosive detection screening system and re-introducing cleared baggage items into the sortation system for travel to the loading location.
2. A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the prefabricated building is sited between an exit from a baggage hall of a terminal building and houses endless conveyor belts for transporting baggage items to and from an EDS machine for screening purposes.
3. A system as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein a plurality of baggage screening conveyor belts are located within the prefabricated housing each connected at one end to receive baggage items from a continuous loop conveyor and at another end to feed baggage items onto the continuous loop conveyor, each one of the plurality of screening conveyor belts having an EDS machine through which baggage items pass.
4. A system as claimed in claim 3 wherein the loop conveyor is linked to a baggage conveying system located within a terminal building through a continuous conveyor located within a tunnel which places the terminal building in communication with the prefabricated building, the tunnel located conveyor transporting baggage from

the conveying system located within the terminal building to and from the continuous loop conveyor of the prefabricated building.

5. A system as claimed in claim 3 or claim 4 wherein each screening conveyor includes a holding station where items of baggage can be detained for inspection purposes.
6. A system as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 5 wherein each EDS machine is linked to a remote control room from which all EDS machines are controlled and from which X-ray images of baggage items can be inspected.